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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, July 24, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended July 19 totaled an estimated 16.7 billion ton-miles, 1.3 percent below the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 29 weeks of 1986 was an estimated 486.1 billion ton-miles, 0.9 percent lower than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended July 19 totaled 366,429, down 0.9 percent from last year, but 8.1 percent higher than the previous week, which was the second week of the annual coal miners' holiday. Compared with last year, loadings were up 2.5 percent in the West, but down 4.4 percent in the East, and 3.3 percent in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 12 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, grain showed a gain of 4,014 cars (18.7 percent) and chemicals and allied products increased by 1,451 cars (6.7 percent). Thirteen of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended July 12 totaled 94,005 trailers and/or containers, 11.8 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 28 weeks of the year was 2,604,947 trailers and/or containers, up 9.9 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 7/19/86:

	Loadings in Week ended July 19, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	25,518	I	4,014	18.7	I	1,556	6.5
Other farm products	3,457	I	487	16.4	D	223	6.1
Metallic ores	15,550	I	1,427	10.1	D	1,991	11.4
Coal	102,096	D	5,087	4.7	I	19,626	23.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	15,048	I	888	6.3	I	317	2.2
Nonmetallic minerals	9,063	D	3,601	28.4	D	175	1.9
Grain mill products	10,231	I	549	5.7	D	121	1.2
Food and kindred products	10,883	D	361	3.2	I	596	5.8
Primary forest products	10,279	D	650	5.9	I	225	2.2
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,522	I	290	4.0	I	614	8.9
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,042	D	910	7.0	D	157	1.3
Chemicals and allied products	23,175	I	1,451	6.7	I	1,012	4.6
Petroleum products	4,910	I	68	1.4	D	283	5.4
Stone, clay and glass products	10,363	D	41	0.4	I	224	2.2
Coke	4,366	D	30	0.7	D	221	4.8
Metals and products	8,607	D	678	7.3	I	1,343	18.5
Motor vehicles and equipment	17,852	D	1,897	9.6	I	3,044	20.6
Waste and scrap materials	7,622	D	836	9.9	I	191	2.6
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	3,094	D	3,470	52.9	I	206	7.1
All other carloads	64,647	I	5,179	8.7	I	1,592	2.5
LCL traffic	104	D	82	44.1	D	1	1.0
Total Cars Loaded	366,429	D	3,290	0.9	I	27,374	8.1
Corresponding week of 1985	369,719						

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (29 weeks)	10,748,048	10,829,654	D 0.8
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
28 Weeks ended July 12	469.3	473.3	D 0.8
Week ended July 19	16.7	16.9	D 1.3
29 weeks cumulative	486.1	490.2	D 0.9

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